Jaish Threat to increase violence in Jammu and Kashmir

*85. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item "We will converge on Jammu and Kashmir, step up violence: Jaish" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated the 5th February, 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps taken so far and further steps proposed to be taken to deal with the increasing violence and terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir as a result of this threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is committed in its resolve to wipe out militancy from Jammu & Kashmir and to usher peace and normalcy in the State.

(c) In addition to continued diplomatic initiatives at various levels, redeployment of troops at border/ LoC and intensive pressure on terrorists in the hinterland the Government conjointly with the State Government had adopted a multi-pronged approach, to contain cross border terrorism perpetrated by the Pak ISI in Jammu & Kashmir which includes *inter-alia* strengthening border management to check infiltration; pro-active action against terrorists within Jammu and Kashir; gearing up intelligence machinery; greater functional integration through an institutional framework of Operation Groups and Intelligence Groups of the UHQ at all levels; improved technology, weapons and equipments for security forces and action as per law against over ground supporters of the terrorists.

The strategies, tactices and dynamic deployment to counter the terrorists are constantly reviewed, refined and monitored in the Unified Headquarters in the State and in Operation Groups and Intelligence Groups at various levels.

Terrorist activities of ULFA in Assam

*86 SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been spurt in the terrorist activities in Assam by ULFA putting the Chief Minister and the Home Minister on the hit list; and